Kitty’s Unicorn Adventure

Yekaterina Taykalo
Hiruni Kariyawasam
E.J. Bahng
Kitty’s Unicorn Adventure

Yekaterina Taykalo (Author)
Hiruni Kariyawasam (Illustrator)
E.J. Bahng (Faculty Mentor)
2022, *Kitty’s Unicorn Adventure* by Yekaterina Taykalo et al. is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives 4.0 International License, except where otherwise noted.
Dedication

This book is dedicated to the person who always believed in me and taught me the beauty in little things, my godfather.
When the sun begins to shine, the unicorns and I will rise.

Stretching my arms to touch the beautiful Alice blue sky.

The sunray beams through the pink pastel curtains, filling my room full of light and glitter; this is certain.
After a night of dreaming, I refresh myself with water and soon will be gleaming.

For a positive start to my day, making my bed is the best way.

Tucking in the sheets without a single crease, I say, “Good morning!” with a happy beat.
Galloping to the washroom to comb my hair, detangling it from the bottom to the top with a lot of care.

Don’t forget the teeth, brushing for two minutes at least.

Brush high and low to remove the bacteria underneath; this will reveal a set of pearly whites to smile sweet.
Now it’s time to scrub my hooves by singing a song with a nice groove.

Let’s get wet and soapy while dancing to new moves.

Rub, rub, rub and hum, hum, hum... getting rid of germs, shake and dry, now I’m done!

Left with beautiful sparkly shiny hooves, now I’m really in a good mood.
At breakfast, it’s a must to eat the colors of the rainbow.

A unicorn's diet always incorporates red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet, and much more so you can grow.

For your horn to glow, having a variety of fruits and vegetables is the best way to go.
When I’m full and there’s nothing left on my plate, I will be left feeling great.

Taking the dish to the sink, I get greeted by a pirate with a wink.

Polishing my dish brings the pirate joy, so I sponge away with a hardy ‘ahoy.’
Running outside to feel the warm breeze, I find magical flowers dancing with bees.

If I’m quiet enough, I can hear the fairies chime. In secret, they giggle, sprinkling fairy dust behind.

Out on my quest, I find a puddle. So, of course, I jump in because it reminds me of a chocolate truffle.

Splish and splash, cocoa-colored spots cover me in a mess.

When my mother calls me in, I do not protest because I meet my mermaid friends named Jamie, Ale, and Jess!
In the tub with a grin, I imagine myself with a pair of fins.

Swimming with the mermaids, I jump with glee.

In a kingdom of bubbles, I have been bestowed the title of ‘Sea Queen.’

But then my mother tells me, “You gotta get clean.”
Putting on my pajamas, I get ready for bed.

But I can’t sleep yet, because I’m excited to read a book instead.

This book is filled with stories untold of dragons and knights leaving me wanting to know.
Surrounded by pillows as soft as marshmallows, I pretend to be a troll, shouting out loud, “Fe fi fo umm..” My mum whispers, “It’s sleepy time, hon.”

Tangled in sheets, I begin to fall asleep.

Looking out the window, I stare at the twinkling stars and fluffy clouds for fun.

I can’t wait for what adventures await me when I’m greeted by tomorrow’s morning sun.
A 50-word summary
Spend the day with Kitty and her love for unicorns as she learns to have fun while creating a healthy routine and good habits. She discovers that with a bit of imagination, one can enjoy the little things in life like washing dishes.

Keywords
Children's book, magical adventure, Healthy habits, Morning/night routine, responsibility.

An Acknowledgment and a Disclaimer
This material is based upon "Humanizing Science through STEM and the Arts (STEAM) Challenges" and "Critical Friends Peer Mentoring" supported by an ISU Miller Open Education Mini Grant. Any topics, opinions, stories, fictional characters, or values expressed in this material are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the funding unit.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book would not have come to fruition without Dr. E.J. Bahng. I would like to recognize the invaluable assistance of Dr. Bahng for the wonderful opportunity to create this book and for having a heart of gold. I would like to pay my special regards to Hiruni Kariyawasam, the lovely illustrator who brought color and life to the words on these pages.

I’m eternally grateful to my friends who were part of my journey in this wild ride called life. They stood by me during every struggle and all my successes. That is true friendship.

I’d also like to express my gratitude to my brother Theodore who always supports me in my endeavors. And my mother, who has been my number one motivator, role model, and inspiration.
Yekaterina Taykalo is a Hmong/Thai American writer. She had a passion for innovation at a young age, which led her to earn a Bachelor’s Degree in Chemical Engineering from Iowa State University. She enjoys sunset walks, painting landscapes, and dancing, among other things. Yekaterina hopes to inspire readers to feel confident, strong, and special about who they are.

yekaterinataykalo@gmail.com

Hiruni Kariyawasam was born and lives in Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon). At the moment she is doing her final year Bachelor in Fashion Design at Moratuwa, one of the leading universities of Sri Lanka. She enjoys doing paintings, fine illustrations, drawing pictures, especially for children’s books in her own unique way.

kariyawasamhiru@gmail.com

Dr. E.J. Bahng is a daughter, a teacher educator, a children’s book writer, & an Associate Professor at Iowa State University, where she has taught since 2008.

ejbahng75@gmail.com